

HOSPITAL AND TRAINING-SCHOOL NOTES



THE trustees of the Hospital of the Good Shepherd in Syracuse have sent out a strong appeal for funds for the building of a nurses' home which has been for some time a crying need of the institution.

THE following class of nurses was graduated recently from St. Joseph's Hospital, St. Paul, Minnesota: Miss Mattie Gleason, Miss Katherine Morgan, Miss Ida Lantz, Miss Matilda Graba, Miss Margaret Cassidy, Miss Josephine Pryor, Miss Elsa Kuntz, Miss Lucile Kieren, Miss Mae Watson, Miss Anna Hansley.

THE graduating exercises of the class of 1908 of the S. R. Smith Infirmary Training School for Nurses were held on the evening of March 25th in the Farrar Home, followed by a reception. The members of the class are: Ruth L. Whittier, Salena Schuhmacher, Agnes M. Goodsell, Eliza B. Brownell, Alma I. Thompson, Robina Thomson, Jessie N. Williams, Blanche Hyslop, Nora Reed, Catharine E. Shaw, Marguerite C. LeJeune, Eva M. S. Brown.

THE dean of the College of Medicine of the University of California requested the San Francisco County Nurses' Association to choose three members of the nursing profession to serve on an advisory training school board for the University of California Hospital in San Francisco. Those chosen are Miss Geneveive Cooke and Miss Sophia L. Rntley of the San Francisco County Association and Miss Katharine Fitch of the Alameda County.

ON March 6th, the opening of the Crerar wing of the nurses' home, Illinois Training School for Nurses, Chicago, was celebrated by a large afternoon reception to graduates and friends, when the entire building, fresh from the hands of the renovators and furnishers, was thrown open for inspection. Two of the new rooms were furnished by graduates; the guest room, in mahogany, by Mrs. Clara Sanford Lockwood of Pasadena; and the directory room, in oak, by the class of 1901. In the evening occurred the annual senior class musicale.

THE graduating exercises of the State Hospital of the Northern Anthracite Coal Region of Pennsylvania were held in Scranton, Pennsylvania, where the hospital is located, on the evening of March 12th in Guernsey Hall, which was filled to overflowing. The class of sixteen is the first to complete the three years' course and is the largest that has graduated. An address was made by Bishop Hoban. The diplomas were presented by Col. Ezra H. Ripple,

president of the board of trustees. Later in the evening there was dancing. The graduates are: Phoebe L. Anderson, Josephine M. Berge, Amy N. Box, Irene M. Coolis, Maria English, Jeanette A. Edwards, Katherine B. Herman, Martha L. Hendricks, Nora I. Healey, Edna J. Long, Eleanor Lawrence, Katherine L. Moore, Margaret Price, Jeanette Phillips, Sarah A. Rutledge, Kathryn A. Vetter.

HOPE HOSPITAL TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES, Fort Wayne, Indiana, held its commencement exercises on February 23rd and 24th. At the baccalaureate services the graduates were addressed on *The Supreme Life*. On Monday evening, impressive exercises took place. During the evening two young ladies dressed in the school colors, blue and white, presented the graduates with the flowers which had been sent for them, and gave Mrs. Fournier, from the class, *The History of Nursing* by Miss Nutting and Miss Dock. After the exercises a banquet was given by the pupils of the training school to the faculty, executive board, graduates and friends.

The following evening the alumnae gave a reception to the graduates, whose names are as follows: Miss A. L. Cannon, Mrs. Lillian A. Edgerly, Miss Eliza P. Reid, Miss Margaret Foley, Miss May M. Heath, Miss Margaret Frysinger, Miss Elizabeth M. Holland, Miss Elsie B. Deacon, Miss Marjorie Hall, Mrs. Edith A. Resler.

THE annual graduating exercises of the Indianapolis City Hospital Training School for Nurses were held in Clinic Hall on February 6th.

The hall was handsomely decorated in the school colors, lavender and white, and never looked more beautiful than when, to the strains of Hart's band the pupil nurses led the way into the pit, followed by the members of the graduating class very becomingly dressed in white uniforms, each wearing a small bunch of violets.

Dr. J. L. Freeland, superintendent of the hospital, acted as chairman of the evening, first introducing Rabbi Feurlicht, who delivered the commencement address. This was followed by a musical program and the presentation of diplomas by Mayor Bookwalter. Following the exercises in Clinic Hall a reception was held in the Nurses' Home.

Following are the names of the graduates: Martha E. Smith, Viola C. Smith, Artie E. Fisher, Mary B. Melvain, Anna M. Gant, Mary E. Davis, Lucy M. High, Bertha J. Pember, Blanche E. Neff, Lula R. Davis, and Gertrude G. Medlin.

THE graduating exercises of the Massachusetts General Hospital Training School for Nurses were held on the evening of March 11th in the Out-patient Department of the hospital. The address was given by the Rev. Francis G. Peabody. Dr. Henry P. Walcott, chairman of the Board of Trustees, presented the diplomas. Twenty-three nurses received diplomas for the three years' course of training and five graduates of the McLean Hospital Training School received diplomas on completing the thirteen months' post-graduate course. Graduates, three years' course: Margaret C. Curley, Marie Cuning-

ham, Christena M. Cook, Grace L. Ranney, Fanny F. Pickup, Esther Roy, Jean C. Cartwright, Margaret Griffin, Frances R. Barlow, Mary A. Oakes, Jane G. MacRae, Florence E. Merrill, Florence G. Hibbard, Georgiana Rodgers, Jenny C. Fletcher, Margaret Hoare, Corinne M. Bolton, Kathryn F. Murnane, Maude H. J. Harwood, Emma B. White, Mary P. Jameson, Annie M. Jarvis, Edna M. Winters. Thirteen months' postgraduate course: Annie F. Coy, Ethel B. Davis, Lillian C. Thompson, Ella M. Tompkins, Lillian J. Ward.

THE POST-GRADUATE, of December, 1907, contained the following article by Dr. D. B. St. John Roosa, who has recently died.

THE LESSENING OF THE TERM OF PUPILAGE FOR TRAINED NURSES

As is known to those of our readers who are interested in Training Schools for Nurses, one of the great hospitals of our city, the New York Hospital, the pioneer of hospitals in this metropolis, has lessened the term of pupilage of nurses from three years to two. This has been termed a reaction in training schools, by some of the advocates of the change, and we certainly deem this a proper name. It is, in our judgment, a reactionary method, and involves all that term usually implies. Reaction is an arrest of progress, a backward tendency, as Webster defines it. The reaction, as far as New York is concerned, has not gone very far, only two hospitals having lessened the term of instruction; and we are not in possession of any information that leads us to think that the other hospitals are likely to follow the example of the New York and Roosevelt hospitals. In the defence of the retrograde movement, the view is taken in the paper before us (*The Reaction in Training School Method* by George P. Ludlam, Superintendent of New York Hospital) that the curriculum of the training schools is needlessly elaborate and that the course of instruction is crowded with that which could not be thoroughly taught and properly assimilated; that many subjects presented have no particular relation to nursing, and so on.

If those statements were entirely correct there would indeed be ground for a radical change. That they are true the superintendent of the New York Hospital evidently believes, and hence he defends the change that has been made in the venerable and honored institution of which he is the chief executive officer. In this capacity Mr. Ludlam has had a very successful career; so that what he says about hospitals should be received with respect.

But the Post-Graduate has not found it to be true in our own training school that the course of training is needlessly elaborate and unpractical, while many authorities assure us that it is not a correct statement, of others in our city where three years is the term of pupilage. The Post-Graduate began with the term of two years and continued this for several years; but for the last nine years we have had a term of three years, with what seems to our authorities a great advantage to the efficiency of the nurses that we send out. The term of three years is not used to fit nurses in materia medica or anatomy, but to give them a thoroughly practical drill, as to the care of sick people. We aim to spare the doctor or surgeon from many details in his visits, which may detract from his ability to properly direct the treatment of the patient in hand, and also to save his time so that he may care for more patients. In early days,

even in New York City, the attending physician was often obliged to spend some of his already overburdened hours as a nurse, because the aid given him at homes and hospitals was inadequate. All that, the trained nurses of the twentieth century have changed for the better.

We aim to make the nurses of the Post-Graduate fully able to assist a surgeon in a great operation, and above all to get the patient ready for it; to aid a physician in all the excitement and weariness of typhoid or pneumonia cases, an orthopedic surgeon with his operations and his complicated dressings; an oculist with the after care of a case of cataract operation; an otologist with a mastoid; an obstetrician and finally to look after babies with their perplexing and innumerable needs. For all that, three years in the life of a young woman choosing a calling that may involve in later years the superintending of a training school or a hospital or similar responsibilities, is certainly not too much.

We are warmly in favor of all that is said in the pamphlet before us, about cropping off excrescences in teaching and returning to simple methods in whatever schools it may be necessary, not only as to training schools for nurses, but also to all educational institutions where, as in the New York public schools, too many subjects are undertaken, so that the little scholars sometimes fail in "the weightier matters of the law," and do not know how to read, write and spell. But we have no sympathy for *shortening the term* as a remedy for any evil of this kind which may exist in a training school or other institution. From what we have seen of training schools we cannot agree that the simple methods of instruction are neglected as archaic and primitive, or that training schools have changed their vocation to "become institutions for the higher education of women along medical lines." This is a bogey that in our judgment exists chiefly in the minds of those who do not have very high ideas of nursing. Trained nurses generally have been becoming better for years, and much of their improvement, to our mind, is due to a sufficiently prolonged period of study, not of books, but of patients. The exactions in their training in hard intelligent work over the patients have become so great, that no ordinary young woman ought to be asked to crowd that work into as short a space of time as two years. Besides this, those who train them have in the third year a valuable class of the survival of the fittest, who become very useful in their last year to the hospital which they serve. Under the present system critical cases may always be cared for by a woman of experience. The highest good of patients, and the advance of medical science will, we believe, be sacrificed or retarded by any general adoption of the lessening of the term for the training of nurses.



A NEW DEPOSIT OF RADIUM.—*The Medical Record* says: A Swiss newspaper is authority for the statement that Prof. Joly, in examining specimens of the strata collected from the borings for the Simplon tunnel, found rich traces of radium, indicating large deposits of the mineral. The presence of the radium, he believed, accounted for the unusual heat experienced in constructing the tunnel.